

TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP

Supporting sustainable transport systems of tomorrow



Countries facing significantly increasing demand for transport services over the coming decades have a unique opportunity to meet this demand and enable economic growth minimizing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Sustainable transport systems are based on minimizing travel; shifting to more environmentally (as well as socially and economically) sustainable mobility; and improving transport technologies, fuels, and institutions. The Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP) Transport Working Group provides technical assistance, tools, and training on strategies that support low-emission development in transport systems.

The Working Group is building a LEDS transport community, supporting champions and innovators, creating networks of experts on low-emission transport, and exploring opportunities for collaboration at local and regional levels. A team of international transport experts from EMBARQ, the sustainable urban mobility initiative of WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, the United States Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) are leading these activities.

Avoid-Shift-Improve approach to sustainable transportation system development

The traditional approach to developing transportation systems has focused on expanding infrastructure—building new roads, rails, and vehicles to meet growing demand. This approach has led to proliferating sprawl, traffic congestion and associated economic impacts, costs to public health from reduced local air quality and increased accidents, and direct and indirect costs of global climate change impacts.

Sustainable transport system development is based on an Avoid-Shift-Improve (ASI) approach—which moves the focus to the policies and behaviors behind the demand for transport. LEDS prioritizes solutions that seek to “avoid” or reduce trips through the integration of land use and transport planning; that “shift” to more efficient and less carbon intensive modes such as public transport, walking and bicycling; and that “improve” the environmental efficiency from each kilometer traveled by enhancing vehicle and fuel technology. This approach addresses the long-term root of problems rather than marginally improving the status quo.



The Avoid-Shift-Improve (ASI) framework supports the holistic design of sustainable low-emission development strategies for transportation systems.

TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP IN ACTION

PEER LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

The Transport Working Group facilitates learning and knowledge sharing for stakeholders in low emission transport planning and implementation. This includes supporting the high-level planning process to offering webinars, forums, trainings, and workshops for technical experts. These materials can be accessed at ledsgp.org/transport-toolkit.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

The Toolkit for Low Emission Development Strategies in Transport provides transport analysis tools and technical resources to support government planners, decision makers, and technical practitioners that are planning and implementing LEDS at national and local levels. The web-based, user-friendly toolkit is helping to build a LEDS GP transport community, support champions and innovators in climate-resilient development, and link transport expert networks. For more information please visit ledsgp.org/working-groups/transport/ and provide feedback at transport@ledsgp.org.

ADVISORY SERVICE

The working group provides timely, high-quality, no-fee technical assistance on transportation issues as part of the LEDS GP Remote Expert Assistance on LEDS (REAL) service. Experts from around the world will be available to provide objective advice, conduct reviews and brief assessments, collect data, and recommend sources of longer-term support for individuals and organizations planning and implementing sustainable transportation systems. For more information on LEDS GP transport expert assistance and to request assistance, visit www.ledsgp.org.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PERU

In 2012, the Peruvian ministries of Environment, Transport, and Energy and Mines asked the Transport Working Group to assist the country in building a comprehensive, robust and streamlined approach to climate change mitigation in the transport sector, as well as an integrated approach to other strategic sectors.

Applying a collaborative, peer-to-peer approach, the Transport Working Group organized a series of technical workshops with experts from Colombia and Mexico, and provided technical assistance through in-person meetings, weekly calls and reviews of key documents. Through this, the Transport Working Group provided technical contributions towards the development of Peru's national climate action plan and many other initiatives:

- The Peruvian Transport NAMA (which was jointly developed with the Peruvian ministries of Environment and Transport, with support from GIZ-Transfer, the World Resources Institute, the LEDS GP, the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, Transitemos and other local partners) secured funding from the NAMA Facility.
- Peru's Ministry of Transport formed an internal working group to coordinate work and policies related to climate change.
- A new national GHG inventory was completed, which supports critical analysis of the transport sector.
- Peru passed its first national law addressing climate change.

Developing sustainable transport systems

- Is affordable and equitable
- Is convenient and connects important destinations within a network
- Creates a healthy and safe local environment
- Preserves ecosystem health and limits GHGs
- Supports economic development and growth
- Respects and preserves local landmarks, both cultural and natural.

➔ JOIN US

Membership of the Transport Working Group is open to all interested parties. To join or find out more about the Working Group, contact Benoit Lefevre PhD, Director of Transport and Climate, World Resources Institute/ EMBARQ at: transport@ledsgp.org or Angela Enriquez at: angela.enriquez@wri.org or visit: www.ledsgp.org.

The Role of the Transport Working Group in the LEDS GP

The Low-Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP) was founded in 2011 to enhance coordination, information exchange and cooperation among countries and international programs working to advance low-emission, climate-resilient growth. The LEDS GP currently brings together LEDS leaders and practitioners from more than 160 countries and international institutions through innovative peer learning and collaboration forums and networks. For the full list of participants and more information on partnership activities, see: www.ledsgp.org | Email: secretariat@ledsgp.org

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